

REMARKS

Claims 5, 8, 9, 11, 15, 16, 19, 21, 27, 28 and 31 are pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration. The remaining independent claims are claims , 8, 9, 11, 15, 16, 19, 21, 27, 28 and 31. By the foregoing amendments, claims 5, 8, 9, 11, 15, 16, 19, 21, 27, 28 and 31 are sought to be amended and claims 1-4, 6, 7, 10, 12-14, 17, 18, 20, 22-26, 29, and 30 are sought to be canceled.

These changes are believed not to introduce new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. The claims have been amended merely to clarify the claims and expedite the prosecution of the application, not to overcome any cited references.

Based on the above Amendment and the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections, and withdraw them.

In paragraph 10 of the office action the Examiner indicated that claims 5, 8, 9, 11, 15, 16, 19, 21, 27, 28 and 31 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. By this Amendment these claims have been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants believe that all of the currently pending claims are allowable and request that the Examiner reconsider all rejections and objections and withdraw them.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that all of the stated grounds of objection and rejection set forth by the Examiner in the Office Action have been properly accommodated or addressed. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and withdraw them. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative if it is felt that an interview might be useful for any reason.

Respectfully submitted
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